



St. Paul and Minneapolis Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women  
is an organization uniting Catholic Women in the Archdiocese.

## ACCW (Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women)

- Established May 11, 1933 by Archbishop John G. Murray
- Is a volunteer organization inviting members to respond to Christ's call to serve others
- Works through affiliated parish CCW organizations
- Offers individual membership
- Has six Commissions through which it carries out its programs
- Has a Board of Directors composed of:
  - ACCW President
  - Elected Officers
  - Commission Chair and Vice-Chairs
  - Deanery CCW Presidents
- Has Seven Deanery Councils of Catholic Women representing the fifteen geographical deaneries of the Archdioceses:
  - Northeast
  - St. Paul Area
  - Minneapolis Area
  - Northwest
  - West
  - Southeast
  - Southwest
- Has its office with other Chancery Staff in St. Paul
- Is a recipient of Catholic Services Appeal Foundation Recipient
- Provides information on their website [www.accwarehouse.org](http://www.accwarehouse.org)
- Publishes a newsletter called the IMAGE 3 times a year in the Fall, Winter and Spring
- Is the connecting link in the NCCW network, uniting NCCW and the Province of St. Paul & Minneapolis with the Deanery Councils and parish CCW organizations

## NCCW (National Council of Catholic Women)

- Was founded in 1920, at the call of the American Bishops
- Is affiliated with the Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)
- Is Catholic women's organizations in the United States connecting Catholic women across the United States
- Represents millions of Catholic Women working together, sharing common concerns on current issues in the church and society
- Hosts an annual National Convention
- Cooperates in diocesan evangelization efforts
- Provides volunteer RESPITE services in over 80 dioceses to caregivers
- Advocates on behalf of women and children in state and national legislatures
- Funds projects in the developing world through donations to its Works of Peace Programs
- Has its national headquarters in Arlington, VA.
- Provides connection with Catholic Women via email with the NCCW Connect newsletter
- Provides information on their website [www.nccw.org](http://www.nccw.org)
- Publishes a bimonthly magazine called *Catholic Woman*
- Offers individual membership
- 1<sup>st</sup> NCCW President in 1920 was Gertrude Hill who was born in St. Paul, MN
- Joan McGrath, ACCW Board Member was the 35<sup>th</sup> NCCW President.



**ACCW Mission Statement:**

As a member of NCCW, ACCW acts through its affiliated organization to support, empower and educate women in spirituality, leadership and service. Our programs respond with gospel values to the needs of the church and society in the modern world.

Through its commissions

**ACCW provides:**

- Programs of spiritual enrichment
- Support to the Deanery Boards and their affiliated parish women’s organizations
- Leadership training
- Offers individual membership
- Speakers

**SPIRITUALITY**

**Church Commission**

Aims to create an educated and dynamic community of God’s people through programs of study and action in the areas of:

- Liturgy/Scripture/Retreats
- Religious Vocations
- Ecumenism/Evangelization & Adoration
- NRP3(Naomi Ruth Prayer Partnership)
- Eastern Rite Churches
- Annual Advent Morning of Reflection

**Family Concerns Commission**

Aims to assist members in achieving truly Christian family living, to preserve Christian principles in areas pertaining to the welfare of all families through:

- Respect Life/Pro-Life Activities
- Family Life, Education and Health
- Media Resources
- Religious Recognition for adults and children

**SERVICE**

**Community Concerns Commission**

Aims to increase awareness of human rights, basic needs and justice within communities in areas of:

- Our Lady of Peace Home
- Physical/Mental Health
- Environmental Concerns
- Domestic Violence
- Women’s Issues

**International Concerns Commission**

Aims to meet the needs of people universally, and strives to create a conviction of responsibilities for international society in the areas of:

- Domestic Missions
  - Appalachian Christmas Program
  - Papal Footprints Shoe Box
- Works of Peace
  - The Madonna Plan
  - Help a Child Program
  - Water for Life
  - Refugee Women Emergency Fund
- World Peace
- Ethnic Outreach

**LEADERSHIP**

**Organization Commission**

Serves to strengthen and assist the entire organization in communicating their concerns and furthering the development of leadership among women through:

- Membership
- ACCW’s IMAGE Newsletter
- Communications
  - Website
  - Brochures
- Facilities/Arrangements
- History
- ‘On the Road’ Membership Enrichment
- An Annual Convention
- Promotional Displays
- Leadership Day – every other year

**Legislation Commission**

Works to educate members on legislative issues and encourages advocacy on local, state and national levels.

- Legislative Day – every other year



For further/additional information  
[www.accwarchspm.org](http://www.accwarchspm.org)  
 651-291-4545